Extension of Baripada-Rupsa

3175. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had committed on 29th January, 2006 in the inauguration function of Baripada-Rupsa broad gauge for Baripada to Bangriposi extension work shall be starting this year;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any action regarding the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, after starting these projects how much time would be taken to complete the abovesaid projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The detailed estimate for gauge conversion of Baripada-Bangriposi (38 Kms) is under process for sanction. An outlay of Rs. 15.89 crore has been provided for the work in the Budget 2006-07. The work will be completed in the coming years as per the availability of resources.

Mixing of Non-vegetarian food with vegetarian food

†3176. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the complaints regarding mixing of non-vegetarian food with vegetarian food in the pantry cars of Railways; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard and the number of such cases which have come to light?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No specific complaint regarding mixing of non-vegetarian and vegetarian food in the pantry car has been received. However, a suggestion regarding segregation of vegetarian and non-vegetarian food items while serving/selling to passengers was received.

Zonal Railways and Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) are instructed from time to time to ensure that cooking utensils in static units and mobile units, where meals are cooked, should be

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.